



### CANOPIC JAR FOR PTAHMES

Egypt, probably Saqqara  
New Kingdom, XVIII Dynasty, reign of Amenhotep III, 1390- 1353 BC  
Banded alabaster with incised inscription  
Height 52 cm

Tall jar with anthropomorphic lid inscribed for Ptahmes, high priest of Ptah. Engraved in three vertical columns on the front of the jar is the traditional New Kingdom formula by which the goddess Neith gives perpetual protection to Duamutef, guardian of the stomach.

Ptahmes, son of Menkheper is a high priest of the god Ptah, who officiated in Memphis during the XVIII Dynasty under the reign of Pharaoh Amenhotep III. He is best known by a cubic statue from the temple of Ptah-Sokar-Osiris in Memphis. Ptahmes played an important role in the clergy of Ptah and Sokar, and was chief architect of the work in the god's sanctuaries. He also held important civil functions such as governor or prefect.

### PROVENANCE

Former collection J.L. Despras Paris, France, acquired at Ferri, Drouot 13th June 1975; private collection Paris, France, acquired from the above in 1977

### LITERATURE

C. Mayestire: *Les Grands prêtres de Ptah de Memphis*, Orbis biblicus et orientalis - Universitätsverlag, Freiburg 1992  
G. A. Reisner: *Catalogue Général du Musée du Caire*, Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale, Le Caire 1967